Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

these glands, three spurs and their petals, giving the flower the appearance of an *Aquilegia*. Since that time Dr. Maxwell T. Masters, in the April 12th issue of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, notices the receipt of a *Phaius Wallichii* in which there had been produced three spurs and regular petals, looking, Dr. M. says, rather like those of a gladiolus than of an orchid. This confirmation of the views, suggested in the observations referred to, indicate that we were on the right track as regards idea of the floral structure.

Movements in Stigmatic Lobes.—Mr. MEEHAN further remarked that at former meetings he had brought to the attention of the Academy, that though it was long known that the flattened lobes of the pistil in *Mimulus* would close on being touched, as rapidly and in the same manner as the leaves of the *Dionæa muscipula*, it did not seem to have been noted that the power was possessed by many other genera of *Scrophulariacæa*, and he had recently recorded the fact that the power extended to *Bignonia* in an allied natural order. It would be as well to call the attention of the Academy to the fact that in the current number of the *London Journal of Botany*, Mr. Kitchener has a note on the movement in *Mimulus*, regarding it as an arrangement to render the fertilization of the plant, by its own pollen, highly improbable. If it were not for the closing of the lobes on the entrance of an insect, pollen would be deposited when the insect makes its exit; but the closing of the lobes on the entrance prevents this. On the other hand, when the pollen covered insect enters another flower and touches the open pistil it receives and closes on foreign pollen. As the common trumpet flower of our gardens, *Bignonia radicans*, is easy of access, he hoped that the members interested in this branch of science would make personal observations the coming season.

MAY 13.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-eight members present.

The following paper was presented for publication:—

"Observations on Nests of Sayornis fuscus." By Thos. G. Gentry.

Prof. COPE exhibited and described some extinct turtles from the Eocene strata of Wyoming. One of these was named

TRIONYX HETEROGLYPTUS, Cope.

Carapace broad, flat, concavely truncate behind. Free portion of costal bones short. The last pair of costal bones are in contact by a common suture by about two-thirds their width, the anterior portion being separated by the last vertebral bone. There is a great difference in the sculpture of the middle of the carapace and its lateral portions. The former region is closely ribbed longitudinally, the intervening grooves being mostly uninterrupted. On the middle portions of the costals the ridges are more or less broken up, and distally they are very delicate, forming an isosculating pattern inclosing small pits. On the last costal they retain their ridge like character. The posterior vertebrals are marked by a single groove down their middle.

Width of carapace at antepenultimate costal bone	0.235 m.
Length from front of do. backwards	.095
Width of do. costal distally	.048
Length of last two vertebrals	.037

Excavated from the Bridger bed on the summit of Church Butte by the writer. A new genus, PLASTOMENUS, Cope, was described as allied to *Trionyx?* No marginal bones of the carapace except a nuchal: extremities of ribs little or not projecting beyond costal bones. Plastron united with carapace by one or two tooth-like processes of the hyposternal bones. An anterior production of the hyosternal inclosing a median fontanelle and uniting by a broad suture with a clavicle (episternal).

This genus is highly interesting as connecting more or less nearly the genus *Trionyx* with the *Chelydrine* form *Anostira.* It is represented by several species in the Bridger Eocene, all of which have the sculpture of both of the genera named. The plastron is ossified nearly as in *Anostira;* but in the numerous specimens obtained there was not one marginal bone. Nevertheless the strong emargination of the proximal end of the second costals proves the presence of a nuchal marginal which does not exist in *Trionyx;* if there were other marginals they must have been small and inclosed in a cartilaginous margin. The first costals were much shorter than the second, and much as in *Trionyx.* A costal process of the first dorsal extends backwards and was attached by suture to the second costal bone, just in front of its capitulum, as in *Trionyx*, *Chelydra*, *etc.* A singular sternal bone accompanies the specimens of *P. thomasii* and *P. trionychoides*, but partially fractured in both cases so as to leave its position uncertain. It can be nothing else than the median portion of a hyosternal with the outer extremity wanting. It bounds a fontanelle interiorly, which nearly reaches the hyposternal; anteriorly it has sutures for both mososternum and clavicle. It is entirely unlike anything in *Trionyx;* it is thickened towards the median line and strongly sculptured externally. The hyo or hyposternal in the "bridge" indicates that portion to have been long, and about as wide as is usual in *Trionyx.* Its free edge is thin; the sutural union with the other component bone complete. The type of the genus is *P. thomasii* (Trionyx thomasii, Cope).

Other species have been referred by me to *Anostira*. These are *P. trionychoides*, *P. oedemius*, *P. molopinus*, and a larger form, *P. multifoveatus*.

May 20.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the chair.

Twenty-five members present.

The following papers were presented for publication:—

"Description of new species of Orthoptera, collected in Nevada, Utah, and Arizona, by the Expedition under Lieut. George M. Wheeler." By Cyrus Thomas.

"Observations on the Habits of the Neuters of Formica sanguinea." By Thos. G. Gentry.

Lilium Washingtonianum.—Mr. Thomas Meehan referred to a paper by Prof. Alphonso Wood, entitled a *Sketch of the Natural Order of Liliaceæ* of the Pacific coast, published in the volume of the Proceedings for 1868, in which he describes a "new species" of *Lilium*, as *L. Washingtonianum*, giving, as a reason for the name, that it was generally known as the "Lady Washington" by the miners. Prof. W. said, in his paper, that it was remarkable so fine a plant had been overlooked by other botanists. It so happens that it had not been overlooked, but had been described ten years previously by Dr. Kellogg, in the Proceedings of the California Academy for 1858. Through the unusual circumstance of two authors employing the same name, the confusion and trouble which loose and careless habits in describers bring on students, in the present case, will not be great; yet it is but just to Dr. Kellogg that this correction should go into the records of the Academy.

On a Species of Delphinus.—By Dr. H. C. Chapman. The presentation of a specimen of a male dolphin to the Museum this evening gives me the opportunity of calling attention to some points in the economy of the Cetacea, and of noticing that the structure of the specimen before us offers a good illustration of the descriptions given by Cuvier, Owen, and others, of this order of mammalia.

Of the external characters the most striking are, the well-developed caudal fin, the effective instrument of locomotion; the dorsal and pectoral fins, the blow hole, the very small external opening of the organ of hearing, and the genital aperture.

The digestive system exhibits a highly complex stomach, divided into several cavities, the œsophagus and duodenum being large.